

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE	:	
APPLICATION OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
MOHAMED SAIED IBRAHEIM, B.V.Sc.	:	PROVISIONAL ORDER
	:	DENYING LICENSURE
FOR LICENSURE TO PRACTICE	:	
VETERINARY MEDICINE IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners in November 1991 upon receipt of an application for licensure by endorsement to practice veterinary medicine and surgery in this State filed by Mohamed Saied Ibraheim, B.V.Sc.. Based on the record before it the Board makes the following findings of fact.

Mr. Ibraheim graduated from Cairo University, Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, in March 1969 with the degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine. According to the International Education Research Foundation, Inc. (I.E.R.F.), the national agency upon which this Board relies for evaluations of degrees from foreign schools, Mr. Ibraheim's degree would be the equivalent of a Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Medicine degree if such a

degree were awarded by accredited colleges and universities in the United States. Mr. Ibraheim's application indicates that he was licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Florida in 1981 and in Pennsylvania in 1991. It further notes in sketchy fashion that from 1982 to the date of application he was in the United States Army Reserve on a part-time basis and provided veterinary medical and surgical care at various Army bases, and that from May 1991 to the date of application, November 1991, he worked part time at a veterinary clinic in Pennsylvania.

On or about November 22, 1991, the Board received a report from the Interstate Reporting Service indicating that Mr. Ibraheim sat for the National Board Examination in Connecticut on June 12, 1979, and that his scores upon conversion totaled 69.63. By letter of November 26, 1991, Dr. Ibraheim was notified that his scores did not meet the New Jersey examination standards, which require a score of no less than 70.00.

N.J.S.A. 45:16-7 of the Veterinary Medicine act requires that any person who wishes to commence the practice of veterinary medicine, surgery and dentistry in New Jersey, and who applies to take the examination for licensure, must be a qualified veterinary graduate. No American college or university offers an undergraduate degree in veterinary medicine, and the only degrees in veterinary medicine granted in this country are post graduate doctoral degrees. A qualified veterinary graduate therefore is one who has received the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine. This is recognized in N.J.A.C. 13:44-1.1, a regulation of the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, which

requires any applicant for licensure in New Jersey to be a graduate of an approved veterinary college or university pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:16-7, and to have received a doctoral degree in veterinary medicine from that institution. The same regulation notes that a veterinary college or university approved by the Board is one which is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (A.V.M.A.) Cairo University is not approved by the A.V.M.A.

In addition, the Board admits to the New Jersey Practical Examination only those applicants who have completed the National Board Examination and the Clinical Competency Test with a grade of 70.0 or better within five years preceding application for the New Jersey Practical Examination. N.J.A.C. 13:44-1.2. The regulation clearly states that scores of 69.5 to 69.9 shall not be rounded off to 70.0 in computing a passing score.

Applicants who have been examined and licensed in another state and who wish to be licensed in New Jersey by endorsement are required by N.J.S.A. 45:16-7.2 to hold a valid license from a state which has education and examination requirements which are substantially equivalent to the requirements in this State. The applicant is further required to have been engaged in the clinical practice of veterinary medicine for three consecutive years immediately prior to application. In addition, the Board must find that the applicant is entitled to its endorsement. N.J.A.C. 13:44-1.3 further indicates that an applicant must have passed with scores acceptable to this Board

the National Board Examination and Clinical Competency Test and must submit notarized certifications of experience from three veterinarians, stating the exact dates of the period being certified, indicating the type of experience acquired, certifying to the applicant's moral character, and providing a critical evaluation of the applicant's ability to practice.

It appears from the record that Mr. Ibraheim has not satisfied these requirements for licensure in New Jersey. Mr. Ibraheim received only an undergraduate bachelor's degree in veterinary medicine and does not have the required degree as a doctor of veterinary medicine from an A.V.M.A. approved educational institution. Although the I.E.R.F. certified that his degree is the equivalent of the bachelor of science in veterinary science awarded by accredited colleges and universities in the United States, no accredited veterinary college or university in the United States offers a bachelor of science degree in veterinary science. The only type of degree in veterinary medicine awarded by a veterinary college or university in this country is a doctorate. The degree of veterinary medicine from a veterinary college or university required by N.J.S.A. 45:16-7 is therefore by definition a doctorate, and Mr. Ibraheim's degree does not qualify. The Board has received no information which would tend to indicate that Mr. Ibraheim's degree is other than the equivalent of a bachelor's degree, which the Board finds to be less than that which is statutorily required for licensure in this State.

In addition, the Board finds that neither the Florida

nor the Pennsylvania licenses indicate that Mr. Ibraheim is entitled to licensure by endorsement in New Jersey. Mr. Ibraheim received his licenses in both states based on education and examination requirements which are not substantially equivalent to the requirements of the New Jersey statute, and in fact are substantially lower. It is obvious that neither state required a doctoral degree or its equivalent in veterinary medicine, and that Mr. Ibraheim's licenses were granted without his having passed the National Board Examination and Clinical Competency Test with scores which would be acceptable in New Jersey. Mr. Ibraheim received his license to practice in Pennsylvania based on Pennsylvania's statutory requirement of five years of licensed practice in another state, but in his application Mr. Ibraheim indicated that his clinical experience had been on a part-time basis only, from 1982 to 1990, as a veterinary medical officer in the United States Army Reserve, and that none of his experience had been in the state where he was licensed. He also listed work as supervisory veterinary medical officer of "FSIS, USDA" and wrote that from May to December 1989 (prior to Pennsylvania licensure) he worked forty to 48 hours per week in a Pennsylvania veterinary hospital. In his New Jersey application Mr. Ibraheim added experience with the Diagnostic Section of the Avian Influenza Task Force in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, of unknown duration at some unknown time, and part-time work at a small animal clinic in Philadelphia beginning in May 1991.

Therefore, even were one or both of his licenses acceptable for purposes of endorsement, Mr. Ibraheim has not submitted evidence

that he has been engaged in the active, full-time clinical practice of veterinary medicine for the three years immediately prior to his application here. The meager information offered in his application indicates that he has been practicing only on a part-time basis for the past 16 months, and he offers no particulars about the scope of his experience in that practice. The application gives this Board no specific information about his professional activities during the 20 months preceding May 1991.

Although Mr. Ibraheim submitted letters from three veterinarians who practice in Pennsylvania, those letters are not notarized and they do not indicate the exact dates of the period being certified, the type of experience acquired, or critical evaluations of Mr. Ibraheim's ability to practice veterinary medicine. Rather, they all state that he is of good moral character and measures "up to the highest standard of veterinary practice," and one states that Mr. Ibraheim has been associated with the writer since May 1991.

It is the responsibility of the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to determine whether those who apply for licensure to practice veterinary medicine and surgery in this State are capable of doing so in a manner which meets the high standards required by the profession. In making this determination the Board must consider the education, experience, moral character and ability of the applicant. The evidence before the Board amply supports its determination that Mohamed Saied Ibraheim has failed to demonstrate the requisite education,

training and experience for licensure by endorsement. He has not received the required degree of doctor of veterinary medicine, nor its equivalent. His licensure in Florida was based on education and examination requirements less stringent than those of New Jersey, as was his Pennsylvania license. Finally, Mr. Ibraheim has not demonstrated that he has practiced clinical veterinary medicine for three consecutive years immediately prior to application.

Based on the aforesaid facts and findings, it is the decision of the New Jersey Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners that the application of Mohamed Saied Ibraheim for a license to practice veterinary medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey be and hereby is provisionally denied. If Mr. Ibraheim wishes to present information refuting any of the factual findings made herein, such information must be presented within thirty (30) days of this provisional denial, and the Board will thereafter determine if future proceedings are necessary. If no material discrepancies are raised through a supplemental submission within that period, this Order shall become final.

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL
EXAMINERS

By Thomas Sanguini V.M.D.
Thomas Sanguini, V.M.D.
President